

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please add the following paragraph at page 3, line 15:

FIG. 4 shows an enlarged view of part of a vacuum circuit breaker with a ceramic tube in accordance with another embodiment of the present invention.

Please add the following paragraph after page 5, line 1:

Fig. 4 shows a ceramic tube 3' in which the cylindrical end face 11' of the ceramic tube 3' extends still further inwards (with respect to the ceramic tube 3 of Fig. 3). The cylindrical end face 11' then forms an angle of less than ninety degrees with the bevel 12' of the inner surface 13' of the ceramic tube 3'. The triple junction 9' is where the three materials (vacuum, metal and ceramic) meet.